Wells Hall Addition Is Future-oriented Space

Promising to bring a significant degree of efficiency, synergy and innovation to the College of Arts & Letters academic enterprise, the Wells Hall Addition that broke ground on Thursday, September 16, 2010, began receiving its new occupants the first week in June 2012. The 88,000-square-foot facility is providing offices, instructional and research space primarily for the language programs, and is a key component of the overall Morrill Hall replacement project.
NEW CLASSROOMS AND LANGUAGE LABS

As a place, the new Wells Hall addition allows the university community to carry on the values of the Land Grant tradition and the heritage of the many programs and individuals that have passed through the halls of Morrill Hall. Its distinctly future-oriented approach to the needs of our changed learning environment helps position the College of Arts and Letters for continued and new endeavors, as it creates memories for the thousands who will take classes, attend lectures, watch films, and engage in research, and the planned or chance conversations that shape our future.

The new addition also allowed us to bring several departments and programs in proximity to each other.

The Department of English, the Department of Religious Studies, the African American and African Studies program, Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities, and the Jewish Studies program all moved into Wells Hall C wing, while the Department of Linguistics, Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages; the Department of Romance and Classical Studies; and the English Language Center and the Center for Language Education and Research (CLEAR) moved into the new addition.

The new addition provides a home for innovations in language advancement through the Center for Language Teaching Advancement, CeLTA, which, among other functions, provides experiential learning opportunities for our language majors; and for the Community Language School, with its early language learning component and workshops for language teachers.

The new addition also has:
- New research spaces and labs
- Several smart classrooms that allow for new ways of teaching that advance student-centered learning, and lead to flexibility for group work and collaborative learning and seamless deployment of technology to:
  - link our campus to others globally
  - share courses with other universities
  - allow students to chat with each other in the target language
  - exchange information on a common problem or issue.

- Open architecture with flexible seating arrangements, a two-story Presentation Space, a three-story Conversation Space, and a café and patio all invite collaboration and conversation between faculty, faculty and students, and among students.

- A green roof in two areas with close attention to energy efficiency throughout.

The new Wells Hall addition is a visible beacon highlighting MSU’s global-international focus, its major emphasis on language learning and teaching, and the strongest Study Abroad Program in the country.